



August 13, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dr. Carlo Montemagno, Chancellor  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Anthony Hall 116  
1265 Lincoln Drive MC 4304  
Carbondale, IL 62901

Dear Chancellor Montemagno:

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC or “the Commission”) has reviewed Southern Illinois University Carbondale (“the University”) file materials as part of the Commission’s internal preparation process for the Open Pathway comprehensive evaluation scheduled to occur in 2019-20. In review of these materials, the Commission maintains records that show the University was seeking to modify the reporting structure of the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in 2015. As stated in record materials, the University was proposing that the Dean of the School of Medicine report directly to the Southern Illinois University System (“the System”) President, who would also oversee the School of Medicine’s finances. As HLC staff informed representatives of the University in late 2015, changing the School of Medicine’s oversight so that it resides outside the University could impact the University’s HLC accreditation. The University subsequently informed HLC in December 2015 that it would provide a status update on the proposal in 2016.

As evidenced in the University’s file with the Commission, HLC has not received any further official correspondence from the University regarding this proposal. Due to the outstanding question of whether the University maintains sufficient oversight of the School of Medicine, as set forth in HLC’s Criteria for Accreditation, I am asking that the University prepare a brief report on this matter. This report should provide materials to HLC to demonstrate that the University maintains sufficient administrative oversight of the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Specifically, the University should provide to HLC a written report that discusses the University’s governance and administrative structures as it relates to the School of Medicine. Included in this report should be a general description of the reporting structure for the Dean of the School of Medicine and copies of any University materials that establish or clarify the placement of the School of Medicine within the University’s and the System’s organization structures, including evidence of a process for annual evaluation of the Dean. This should include an explanation of the financial oversight process that pertains to the School of Medicine. Additionally, the University should include copies of all University Board of Trustees minutes in which the School of Medicine is discussed from meetings that occurred within one year preceding the date of this letter. The

Chancellor Montemagno, August 13, 2018 2

University should also include any additional information that it considers relevant to demonstrating that it maintains a role in oversight of the School of Medicine.

I ask that you provide this report within thirty days of this letter, or no later than **September 15, 2018**. Please submit the materials as a single PDF file that does not contain any links to external documents or websites electronically to [www.hightail.com/u/hlc-lga](http://www.hightail.com/u/hlc-lga).

Thank you for your cooperation. Please contact your HLC Staff Liaison, Dr. Karen Solomon, if you have any questions about this letter.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthea M. Sweeney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Anthea M. Sweeney  
Vice President for Legal and Governmental Affairs

Cc: Lizette Chevalier, Associate Provost for Academic Programs, Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale  
Karen Solomon, Vice President for Accreditation Relations and Director of the Standard  
Pathway, Higher Learning Commission